

Customs Modernization

August/September 2001 Status Update for Oversight Organizations

Modernization at-a-Glance

Funding Status

- The House approved \$300 million for ACE in FY 2002. In September, the full Senate will consider its version of the FY 2002 spending bill with \$230 million earmarked for ACE.
- The Customs automation package also included \$122.4 million for ACS and \$5.4 million for ITDS.

Timeline

- September:
Recommendations on high level requirements for all of ACE due from Trade Support Network.

A word from our partner...

“While the current focus of the e-Customs Partnership is on executing the first three tasks of the Modernization Contract, we see this as just the first step toward many value-based outcomes of our relationship with the Customs Service. We are looking forward to developing a system that produces value all will be able to see and measure.”

— Harry Sundberg
eCP Project Executive

Commissioner Nominee Names Modernization a Priority

In remarks before the Senate Committee on Finance July 31, the nominee for Customs Commissioner, Judge Robert C. Bonner focused on the balance between Customs trade and enforcement operations. Although Judge Bonner’s background is in enforcement and private industry law, he believes enforcement should not “overshadow Customs important role in facilitating trade and working with the trade industry to make Customs more efficient.”

As a step in the right direction for the Customs modernization efforts, Judge Bonner identified the timely design, funding, and implementation of ACE as one of his highest priorities.

Customs has been faced with many challenges during its attempts to launch ACE. Judge Bonner is aware of these constant challenges and is committed to securing the future for Customs

automated systems and modernization efforts.

Judge Bonner understands the importance of trade facilitation, and his views were welcomed by the trade community. “We think his comments on ACE as being a priority for the U.S. Customs Service are right on the mark to improve trade automation for the future,” said Michael R. White, director of facilitation for the Air Transport Association (ATA). “The ATA will support Mr. Bonner and the Customs Service in making America a leader in cargo transport clearance.”

The Customs Modernization Office is looking forward to working with Judge Bonner in the modernization effort. With the current explosive growth in trade and highly demanded Customs workforce, the Customs Service must improve its business processes.

“One of my highest priorities as Commissioner will be the successful and timely design, implementation, and funding of ACE.”

—
*Judge Robert C.
Bonner
Customs
Commissioner
Nominee*

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Customs Modernization:
New World, New Tools